

2020 Mock Newbery Discussion #1

July 23, 2019

It's time to start taking a closer look at the children's books of 2019. Participating in the Mock Newbery is an opportunity to read the newest children's books and to discuss them with other passionate readers. A letter certifying participation is available for those applying the Mock Newbery program towards professional development.

Program registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y92andk6>

Please read at least 8 books for the first meeting. Books that have not been read by half the number of participants at the meeting will not be discussed and will be removed from subsequent lists.

Mock Newbery Discussion #1

Tuesday, October 1, 4:30 – 6:15 PM

Cranston Public Library, Central

140 Sockanosset Cross Rd., Cranston

2020 Mock Newbery Reading List #1

1. *Because of the Rabbit* by Cynthia Lord. (Scholastic, 2019)
2. *Genesis Begins Again* by Alicia D. Williams. (S&S/Atheneum, 2019)
3. *A Good Kind of Trouble* by Lisa Ramee (Balzer + Bray, 2019)
4. *The Line Tender* by Kate Allen. (Dutton, 2019)
5. *The Lost Girl* by Anne Ursu. (Walden Pond Press, 2019)
6. *My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich* by Ibi Zoboi. (Dutton, 2019)
7. *New Kid* by Jerry Craft. (HarperCollins, 2019)
8. *Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga. (Balzer + Bray, 2019)
9. *A Place to Belong* by Cynthia Kadohata. (Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2019)
10. *Queen of the Sea* by Dylan Meconis. (Walker Books, 2019)
11. *Shout* by Laurie Halse Anderson. (Penguin Young Readers Group, 2019)
12. *Song for a Whale* by Lynne Kelly. (Delacorte Press, 2019)
13. *Spy Runner* by Eugene Yelchin. (Henry Holt and Co., 2019)
14. *Sweeping Up the Heart* by Kevin Henkes. (Greenwillow Books, 2019)
15. *This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality* by Jo Ann Allen Boyce and Debbie Levy. (Bloomsbury, 2019)
16. *Where the Heart Is* by Jo Knowles. (Candlewick, 2019)

Please send suggested titles for Reading List #2 by October 7th to: danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov

Reading List #2 will be available October 8th at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/youth/newbery/index.php>

Voting for a Rhode Island winner and honor books will take place on January 14, 2020 using the balloting procedures of the real committee.

Continuing sessions:

Mock Newbery Discussion #2

Tuesday, December 3, 4:30 – 6:15 PM

Cranston Public Library, Central

140 Sockanosset Cross Rd., Cranston

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting

Tuesday, January 14, 4:30 – 6:15 PM

Cranston Public Library, Central

140 Sockanosset Cross Rd., Cranston

The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in the United States during the preceding year. The Award is restricted to authors who are citizens or residents of the United States.

Criteria:

1. In identifying "Distinguished Writing" in a book for children,

a. Committee members need to consider the following:

- Interpretation of the theme or concept
- Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity, and organization
- Development of a plot
- Delineation of characters
- Delineation of setting
- Appropriateness of style

Note: Because the literary qualities to be considered will vary depending on content, the committee need not expect to find excellence in each of the named elements. The book should, however, have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it.

b. Committee members must consider excellence of presentation for a child audience.

2. Each book is to be considered as a contribution to American literature. The committee is to make its decision primarily on the text. Other components of a book, such as illustrations, overall design of the book, etc., may be considered when they make the book less effective.

3. The book must be a self-contained entity, not dependent on other media (i.e., sound or film equipment) for its enjoyment.

Note: The committee should keep in mind that the award is for literary quality and quality presentation for children. The award is not for didactic content or popularity.

Adopted by the ALSC Board, January 1978. Revised, Midwinter 1987. Revised, Annual 2008.